

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
May 7, 2009
Minutes

Attendees: Mary Feathers, Chair, Shamim Patwa , Vice Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin.

Absent: Dudley Hamlin, Martha Kelly

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm by Ms. Feathers, Chair.

Recognition of Mansfield Middle School Students: The Boy's Basketball Team was the recipient of the Roger LaFrancois, Sr. Sportsmanship Award by the Region 8 Basketball Officials. The VEX Robotics Team was the state champion in the Autonomous Robotics competition.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Julie Brown spoke regarding the possibility of Chaplin students attending Mansfield Middle School.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. LaPlaca to add a Personnel Item requiring a motion to the Superintendents Report. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Patwa stated the Personnel Committee is currently in negotiation with the school nurses' association and UPSEU (custodian/maintenance/cafeteria).

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Books on Bus: Mr. Baruzzi discussed the details of the new summer program Books on Bus which will provide neighborhood access during the summer to library books for Mansfield children.
- Revised Technology Plan: Mr. Russell, Director of Information Technology, reviewed the district's technology plan. **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded Ms. Patwa to approve the 2009-2012 Educational Technology Plan. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- 2009-2010 Budget: Mr. Baruzzi presented the budget decrease of \$235,000 to \$20,595,570 as reduced by the Mansfield Town Council. **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded Mrs. Paulhus to adopt the Superintendent's recommendations for reductions. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- Preschool Program: Mr. Baruzzi and Dr. Leclerc discussed the changes in the preschool program for the 2009-2010 school year.
- Grade 5 Recess: Mr. Cryan reviewed the current student program of study indicating opportunities for grade 5 students to engage in physical activity.

- Dorothy Goodwin Fund: **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded Mrs. Paulhus to appoint the Chair to form a committee consisting of Board members, teachers, and parent representatives to review suggestions and prepare a report to the Board with a recommendation to appropriate the Dorothy Goodwin Bequest. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The building principals reported no major changes in class size and enrollment.
- BOE Retreat: The agenda of the May 21, 2009 Board Retreat will be goals and objectives.
- Personnel: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. Kueffner to approve the request for maternity leave effective June 15, 2009 by Heather Keenan, 3rd grade teacher at Vinton Elementary School
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Ms. Lin that the following item for the Board of Education meeting of May 7, 2009 be approved or received for the record: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the April 16, 2009 Board meeting.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Sheryl Lambert spoke regarding the pre-school program and books on bus program. Lisa Drzewiecki spoke regarding the pre-school program.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. LaPlaca to move into Executive Session at 9:50pm to discuss contract negotiations. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Mrs. Kelly arrived at 10:07pm.

MOTION by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Ms. Patwa to return to open session at 10:50pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to ratify the Mansfield School Nurses' Association contract dated July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Mr. LaPlaca to adjourn at 10:51pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk